

REMARKS

The above amendment with the following remarks is submitted to be fully responsive to the Office Action of July 5, 2007. Reconsideration of this application in light of the amendment and the allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

First, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for conducting the personal interview with Applicants' representative on November 16, 2007. Although no agreement was reached, amendments to the claims in view of Figure 2 and description thereof in Applicants' Specification were discussed in which patently distinguish over all of the Applied References, whether taken alone or in combination.

Accordingly, the claims have been amended based on FIG. 2 and description thereof in Applicants' Specification and without the introduction of new matter. Applicants submit that the present claims are allowable over Comay (U.S. Patent No. 6,363,489), Pearson (U.S. Patent No. 6,990,591), Boebert (U.S. Patent No. 5,864,683), and Lyle (U.S. Patent No. 6,886,102), alone or in combination. For example, as noted during the interview, independent claims 31 and 61 are directed to the embodiment of FIG. 2, including first and second intrusion detection systems 110 and 170 coupled to an analysis system 120 for detecting external and internal unauthorized access to a protected network by external and internal hackers 150 and 160. The first and second intrusion detection systems 110 and 170 include respective first and second intrusion detection modules 1130, and first and second communications management modules 1140 respectively coupled to the first and second intrusion detection module modules 1130.

By contrast, the Applied References, whether taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest the noted features, as recited in independent claims 31 and 61. In addition, independent claims 31 and 61 require a specific interconnection between the claimed systems and modules and also which is not disclosed, taught or suggested by the Applied References, taken alone or in combination.

Dependent claims 33-36, 38-60, 63-66 and 68-91 depend from independent claims 31 and 61, and are allowable on their at least for the aforementioned reasons, and further for the additional features recited therein.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. However, if any issue remains after considering this response, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned to expedite the prosecution and work out any such issue by telephone.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-2478 (741946-30) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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